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VisNetic MailServer

# FTP Service Reference

Version 9.1


 <b>powerful</b> email server
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## CHAPTER 1

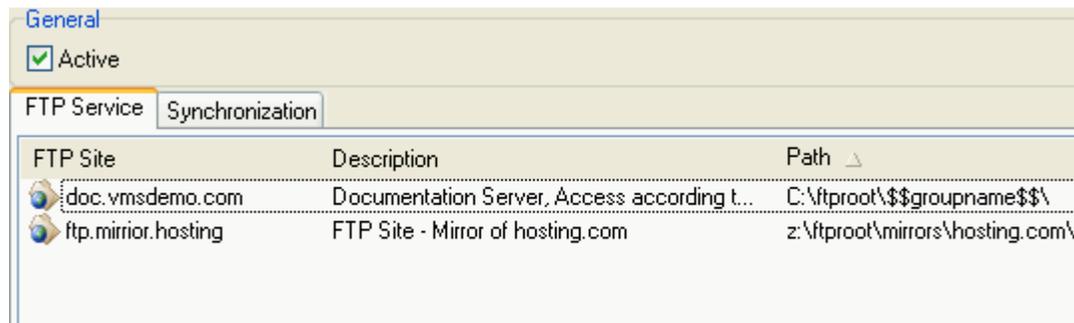
# FTP Service

The **FTP Service** node allows you to define one or more FTP servers on your Server.

Be aware that the FTP Service runs under the Control Service so if this is not started, the FTP Service will not run correctly.

An FTP Service allows you share files and folders with users who have an FTP client.

Specific Users can be defined for each service, and you can also allow anonymous access, so anyone can access the files.



To activate the FTP Server check the **Active** box.

The node has two tabs - **FTP Service** (see "FTP Service Tab" on page 2) and **Synchronization** (see "Synchronization Tab" on page 19), which are discussed in the next sections

## In This Chapter

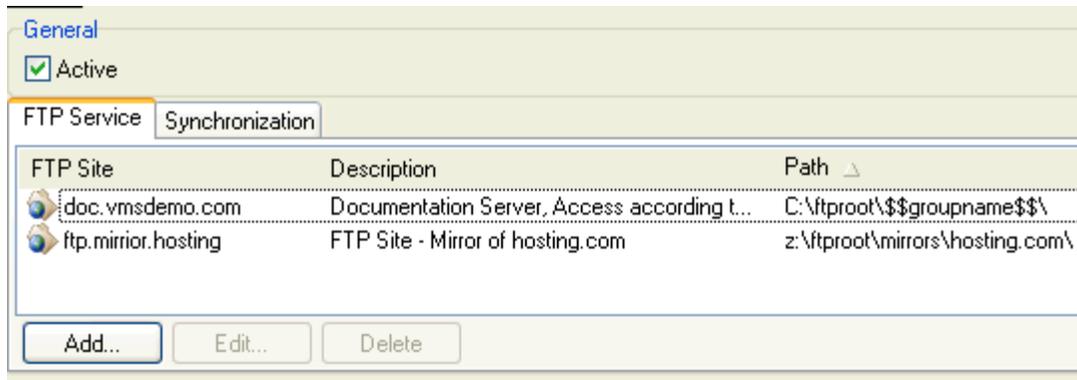
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## CHAPTER 2

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## FTP Service Tab

Selecting the **FTP Service** tab offers a list of defined FTP Servers:



Use the **Delete** button to delete a definition.

Use the **Add** or **Edit** buttons to create or modify an FTP Site definition, the FTP Service dialog is presented:

Field	Description
Site	The URL used to access the FTP site.
Description	Short descriptive text for this FTP service.
Home directory	<p>The root folder (or home directory) of the FTP site. VisNetic MailServer will automatically display any subfolders.</p> <p>It is possible to use <b>path variables</b> here:</p> <p>\$\$homedir\$\$, \$\$username\$\$ and \$\$groupname\$\$ are allowed, and additionally \$\$domain\$\$ and \$\$email\$\$ if you use system integration.</p> <p>Read more about path variables in the <b>Hints</b> (see "FTP Hints" on page 22) section.</p> <p>Use the '...' button to open a standard dialog for selecting the home directory</p> <p>For selecting home directory you can use selection button '...'</p>
IP Address	<p>If you need to bind this service to a specific IP address, specify it here.</p> <p>Use the drop down arrow to show all IP addresses available for this machine, plus an option to use 'all available'.</p>

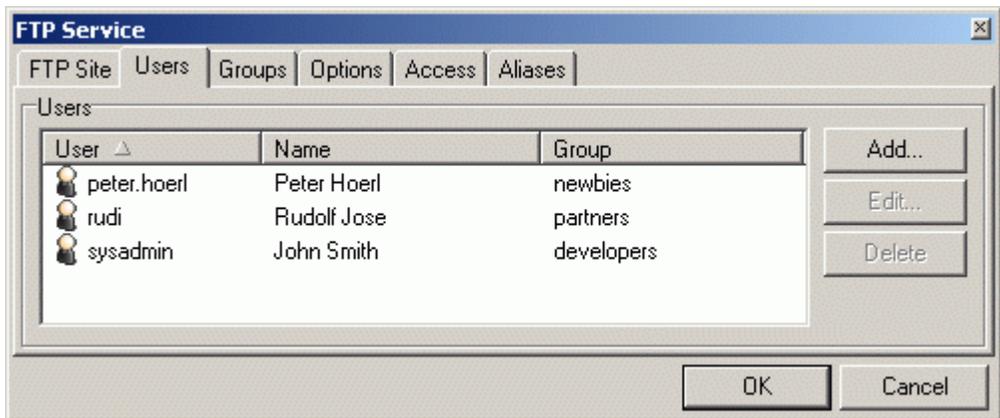
Enable W3C logging	If checked all the connections are logged in W3C format which is a standardized format so you can use your own parsers, etc. to easily analyze the logs.
Logging file path	The path to log files. It supports time variables like yyyy mm dd in the file name. e.g. c:\logs\FTP\"yyyymmdd\".log

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## Users

Selecting the **Users** tab of the **FTP Service** dialog displays a list of defined Users for this FTP server:



Use the **Delete** button to delete the selected User.

Use the **Add** or **Edit** button to create or modify a User. The **User** dialog is displayed.

## User - User

The screenshot shows a 'User' dialog box with the following fields and values:

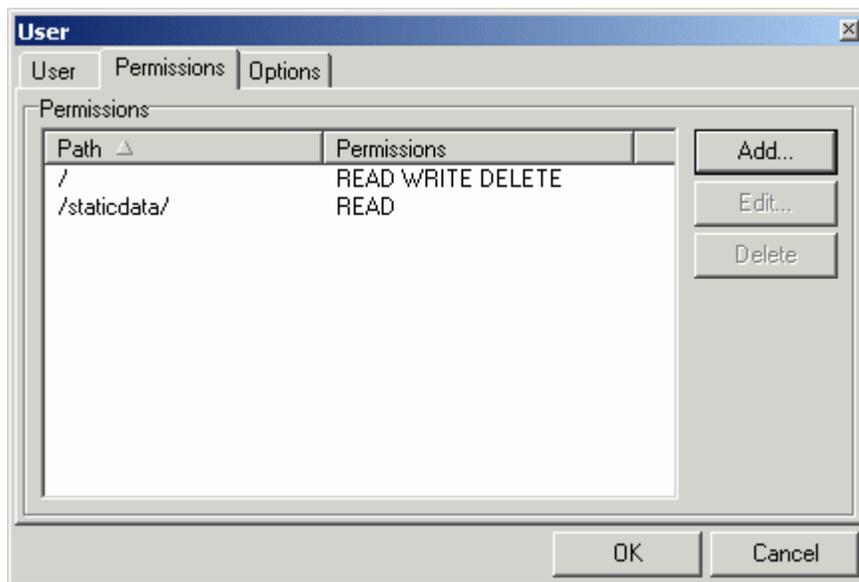
- Username: Administrator
- Name: Administrator Account
- Type: System
- Password: (empty)
- Account: admin@vmsdemo.com
- Group: (empty)
- Path: (empty)

Field	Description
Username	The username for this account.
Name	Short descriptive text for this account.
Type	<p>Choose from one of three account types:</p> <p><b>System</b> (default)</p> <p>Use this type if the User you are defining already has a standard User account within this VisNetic MailServer.</p> <p>For this type you should specify the User account in the Account field and the user will have to use that account's password to access the FTP server.</p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <p>From the screenshot above - the user logs in with username "Administrator" and the password to Account admin@vmsdemo.com.</p> <p><b>Local</b></p> <p>Use this type for a user external to the VisNetic MailServer. A password must be specified in the Password field.</p> <p><b>Anonymous</b></p> <p>Use this type if you do not want to specify a password for the user.</p> <p>NOTE - do not assign administrator rights to this type of user as this could easily lead to abuse of your FTP site.</p>
Password	Specify a password here for users of type Local.

Account	Specify the VisNetic MailServer account here for user type System. Use the '...' button to open the Select Account dialog, allowing you to easily locate and assign an account.
Group	Add this user into an existing Group by selecting the appropriate Group from the Drop-down list.  NOTE - Groups must be defined before you can add a user (see <b>Groups</b> (on page 9)).
Path	You can define a specific path for this User's home directory here.  NOTE - This value will override any Group value defined

## User's Permissions

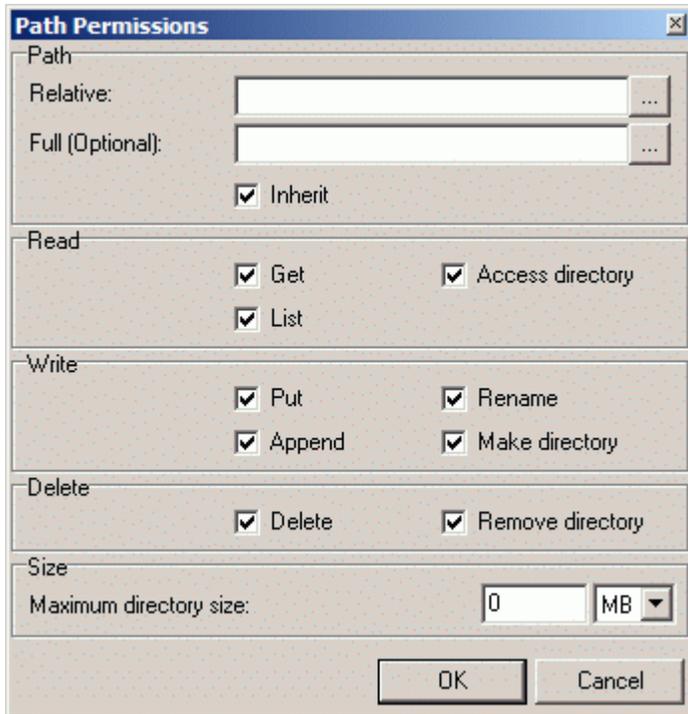
Selecting the **Permissions** tab of the User dialog presents a list of defined Folder permissions:



Use the **Delete** button to delete the selected permission.

Use the **Add** or **Edit** buttons to create or modify a permission. The Path Permissions dialog is displayed:

NOTE - Settings here will override any Group settings for a Group that this user is a member of.

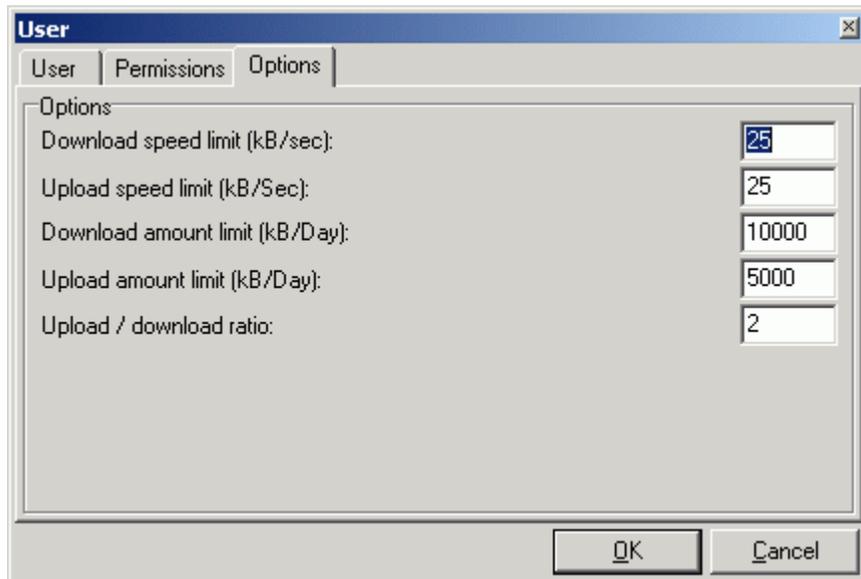


Field	Description
Relative path	Specify the path to the folder you wish to assign User Permissions to. This is a relative path from the <b>Home directory</b> (see "FTP Service Tab" on page 2) of the FTP site, and must contain a trailing slash character. Use just a slash, '/', to specify the Home directory. If you want to define default permissions for any directories not explicitly specified enter a single asterisk, '*'.
Full (Optional)	Here you can optionally specify the full path to the directory you wish to apply restrictions to.
Inherit	Check this option to have the permissions inherited from the parent directory.
<b>Read Permissions</b>	
Get	Allow the User to download files.
Access directory	Allow the User to browse to this directory with his FTP client.
List	Allow the User to list the directory contents.  NOTE - the difference between Access Directory and List is subtle. If Access Directory is enabled then the User's client can browse to that directory, but. if List is not enabled, the directory will appear to be empty.

<b>Write Permissions</b>	
Put	Allow the User to upload files to this directory.
Rename	Allow the User to Rename this directory.
Append	Allow the User's client to use the Append command in this directory.
Make directory	Allow the User to create subfolders in this directory.
<b>Delete Permissions</b>	
Delete	Allow the User to delete files from this directory.
Remove directory	Allow the user to delete this directory.
<b>Size</b>	
Maximum directory size	Specify here a maximum size for this folder, in MegaBytes.

## User - Options

NOTE - Settings here will override any Group settings for a Group that this user is a member of.



Field	Description
Download Speed	Enter a non-zero value to limit the speed at which this User can download

Limit	data. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload Speed Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the speed at which this User can upload data. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Download Amount Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the amount of data this User can download. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload Amount Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the amount of data this User can Upload. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload/Download Ratio	Enter a non-zero value here to specify how much data the User must upload compared to the amount he downloads.  For example - a value of 2 says that this user must upload 2 Mbytes of data for every 1 Mbyte he downloads.

## Groups

An FTP User Group is effectively a template of options that can be applied to a User simply by making that User a member of the Group.

A Group definition lets you change an option once and have it applied to all Users in the Group.

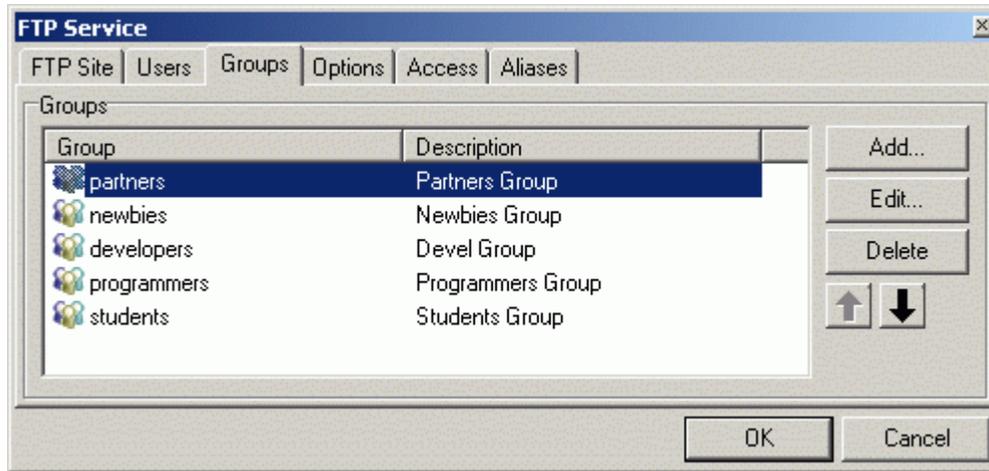
Within a Group you can set the Relative path, Permissions, the upload/download limits and the upload/download ratio to be applied to members of the Group.

### NOTES

A User can only be a member of one FTP Group.

Any options you specify within the Users tab will override the Group options.

Selecting the **Groups** tab displays a list of defined FTP Groups:



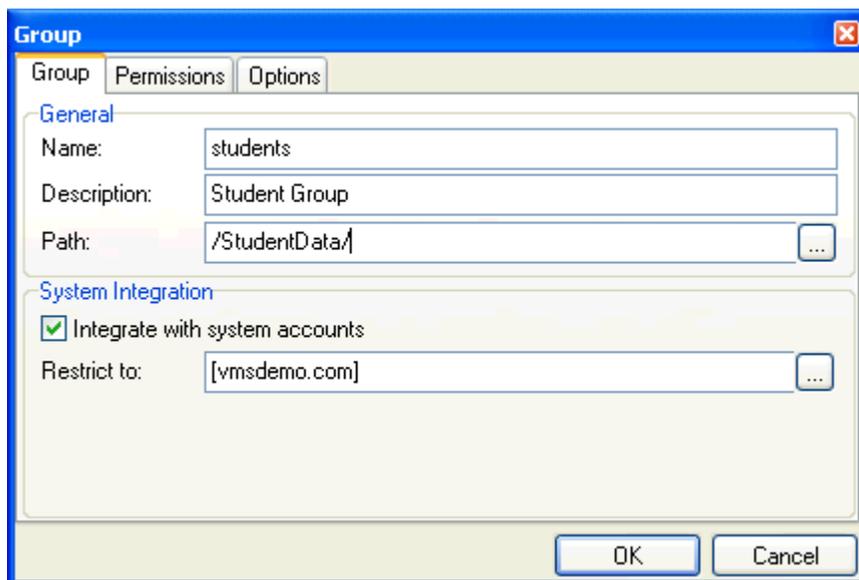
The first Group you create for an FTP site is the Primary Group and has a slightly different icon to it's left.

Use the **Delete** button to delete the selected Group.

Use the **Up** and **Down** arrows to move Groups within the list.

Use the **Add** or **Edit** buttons to create or modify a Group. The **Group** dialog is presented.

## Groups - Group

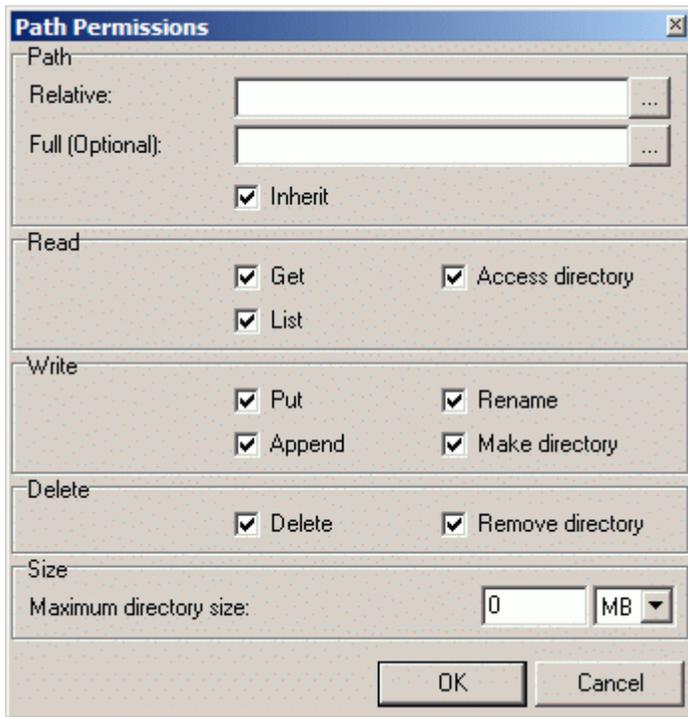


Field	Description
Name	Specify a name for the Group.
Description	Short descriptive text to help you identify the Group.
Path	
System Integration Integrate with system accounts	Integration and automatic linking with certain VisNetic MailServer system user accounts. You should specify these accounts in 'Restrict to' field.
Restrict to	Specifies domains and/or users with which you want to integrate. Domains and users are separated with semicolon. Users of this Group will now access FTP site with their e-mail account usernames and passwords. Use '...' for selection through Select Account Dialog, easy to use and straightforward dialog.

## Groups - Permissions

The Permissions tab allows you to set default permissions for the Group.

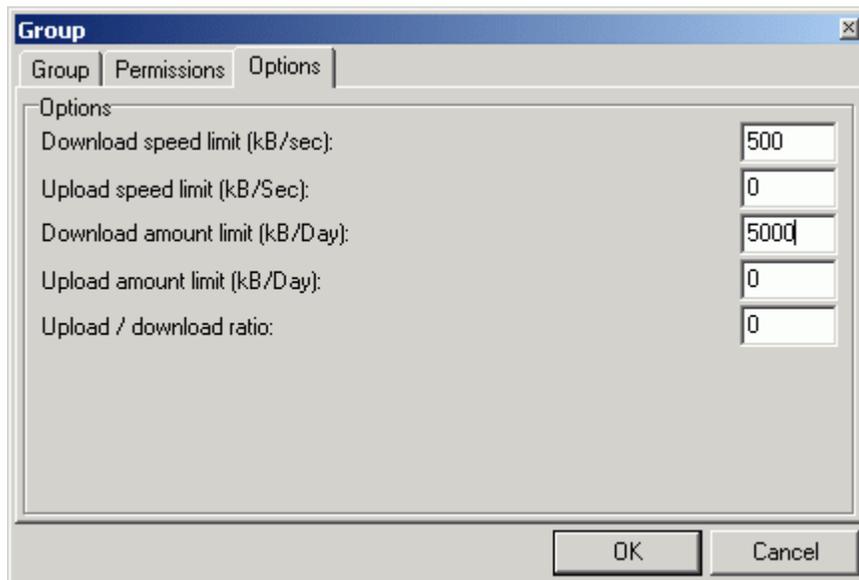
NOTE - that permissions assigned to individual members of the Group will override Group permissions.



Field	Description
Relative path	Specify the path to the folder you wish to assign User Permissions to. This is a relative path from the <b>Home directory</b> (see "FTP Service Tab" on page 2) of the FTP site, and must contain a trailing slash character. Use just a slash, '/', to specify the Home directory. If you want to define default permissions for any directories not explicitly specified enter a single asterisk, '*'. NOTE - the difference between Access Directory and List is subtle. If Access Directory is enabled then the User's client can browse to that directory, but. if List is not enabled, the directory will appear to be empty.
Full (Optional)	Here you can optionally specify the full path to the directory you wish to apply restrictions to.
Inherit	Check this option to have the permissions inherited from the parent directory.
<b>Read Permissions</b>	
Get	Allow the User to download files.
Access directory	Allow the User to browse to this directory with his FTP client.
List	Allow the User to list the directory contents.

<b>Write Permissions</b>	
Put	Allow the User to upload files to this directory.
Rename	Allow the User to Rename this directory.
Append	Allow the User's client to use the Append command in this directory.
Make directory	Allow the User to create subfolders in this directory.
<b>Delete Permissions</b>	
Delete	Allow the User to delete files from this directory.
Remove directory	Allow the user to delete this directory.
<b>Size</b>	
Maximum directory size	Specify here a maximum size for this folder, in MegaBytes.

## Groups - Options



<b>Field</b>	<b>Description</b>
Download Speed Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the speed at which this User can download data. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload Speed Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the speed at which this User can upload data. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Download Amount Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the amount of data this User can download. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload Amount Limit	Enter a non-zero value to limit the amount of data this User can Upload. A value of zero specifies no limit (up to your connection speed) This can be useful if you need to limit your bandwidth usage.
Upload/Download Ratio	Enter a non-zero value here to specify how much data the User must upload compared to the amount he downloads. For example - a value of 2 says that this user must upload 2 MB of data for every 1 MB he downloads.

## Options

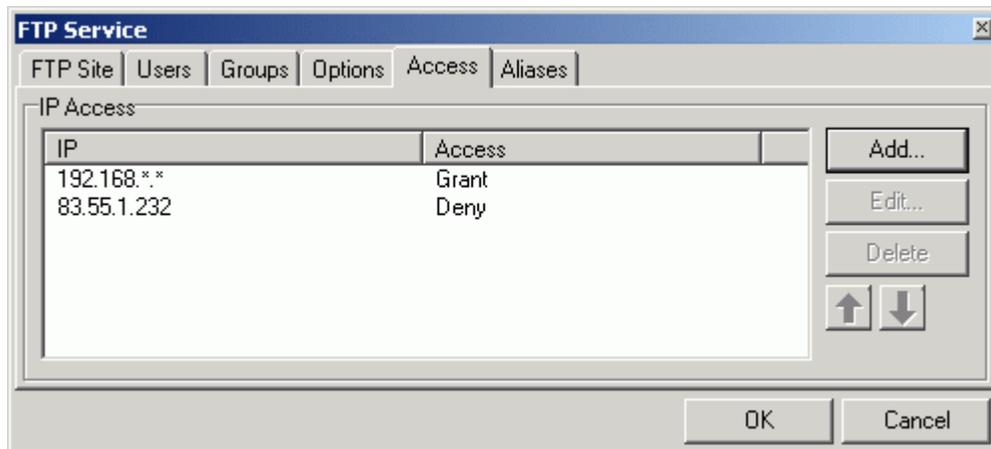
Field	Description
Maximum connected users	Specify a non-zero value here to limit the number of simultaneous connections to this FTP site.  This is useful if you want to limit bandwidth usage.
Maximum connections from single IP address	Specify a non-zero value here to limit the number of connections from a single IP address.
Passive port range from / to	The FTP server communicates in both Active and Passive mode.  For Passive mode communication the Server needs to use non-standard ports to communicate, these are specified here.  Specify the low and high value of a range of ports the server can use for Passive mode connections.  <b>NOTE - these ports should be opened on you firewall/router.</b>  You can read more information about how active and passive modes work here

	- <b>FTP Modes</b> ( <a href="http://slacksite.com/other/ftp.html">http://slacksite.com/other/ftp.html</a> ).
Passive mode IP address (If not supported by firewall)	Here you can specify an IP address to use for passive mode transfers. Useful and important when the FTP service is running behind a firewall or proxy.
Require OTP authentication (S/KEY password encryption)	In compliance with RFC-2289 server requests One Time Password authentication login. Enable this checkbox to increase your server's security, but remember some FTP Clients do not support this feature.
Welcome message	Specify a greeting here. This will be used to greet any client accessing the FTP server.

## Access

The **Access** tab allows you to grant or deny access to the FTP Site from specific IP address ranges.

You are presented with a list of defined IP address ranges:



Use the **Delete** button to delete the selected range.

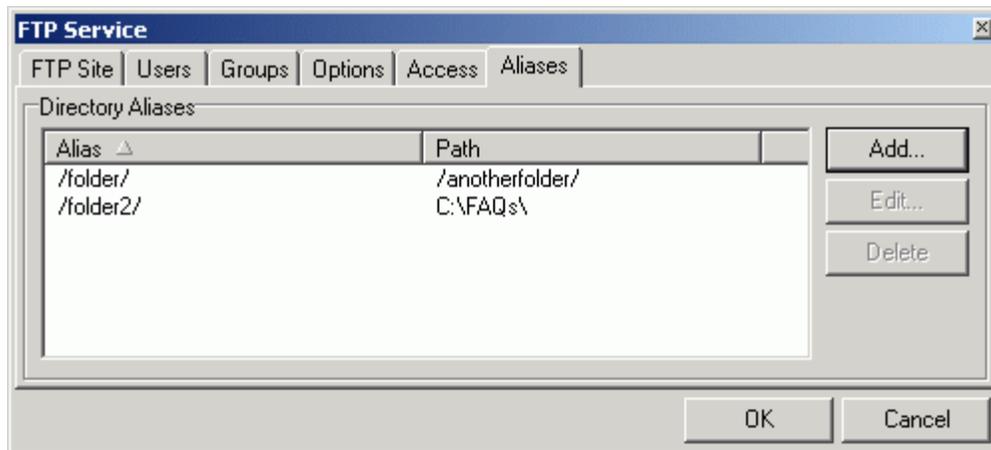
Use the **up** and **down** arrow buttons to move address ranges within the list.

Use the **Add** or **Edit** buttons to create or modify an IP address range. The IP dialog is displayed:

Field	Description
IP Addresses	<p>Specify an IP address range here.</p> <p>An Asterisk can be used as a wildcard: e.g. 192.168.*.* means all addresses starting 192.168</p> <p>A hyphen can be used to define a number range: e.g. 192-193.*.*.* means all addresses starting with 192 or 193</p> <p>Multiple entries can be specified, separated with semicolons: e.g. 192.168.*.*;127.0.0.1;192-193.*.*.* means both of the above.</p>
Access	<p>Select one of -</p> <p><b>Grant</b> - to allow access form this IP range.</p> <p><b>Deny</b> - to block access from this IP range.</p>

## Aliases

Aliases are a very popular, although tricky, way how to organize files and folders of your FTP site. Using aliases in your FTP site is recommended and can be very useful. With right setting of aliases you can achieve better clarity and security of your server. After reading this see also Hints chapter in documentation.

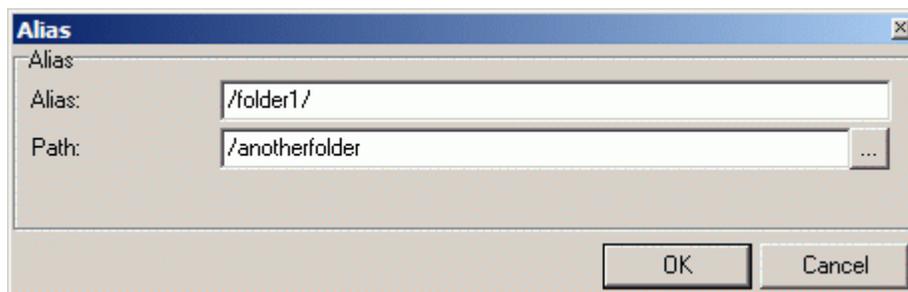


This feature lets you to define different paths for a particular folder. A user who accesses a folder in his FTP account site will access this folder but actually, he will be redirected to read a completely different one.

You can use both absolute and relative paths in the format shown on the image above.

Also **you can use all path variables** (\$\$homedir\$\$, \$\$username\$\$, \$\$groupname\$\$, \$\$domain\$\$, \$\$email\$\$ (the last two only in case you are system integrated)) when setting aliases. This can come extremely handy. Read more about path variables in FTP documentation section Hints.

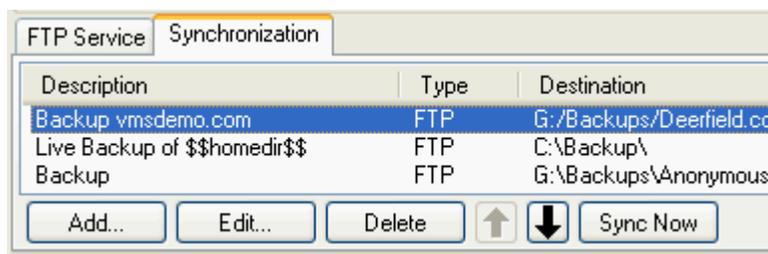
To add new or edit existing one click on proper button. Dialog like this will appear:



Field	Description
Alias	A relative path from root folder to the one whose accesses should be redirected somewhere else.
Path	Where the accesses are redirected to. Can be relative or absolute path.

## Synchronization Tab

Server synchronization is a comprehensive feature for scheduled automatic file or directory synchronization.



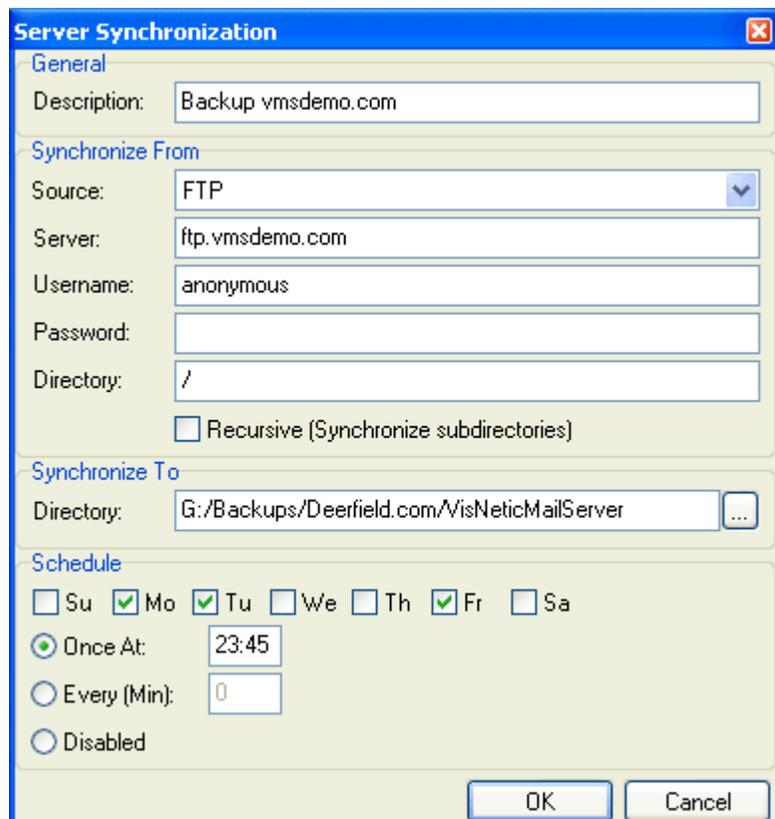
It is ideal for automatic file or directory backup and mirroring. This function only downloads difference in content of your remote directory to your local folder.

By difference is meant:

- new folder
- various filename or extension
- various time and/or date of creation (modification)
- various size

See also section Hints in FTP documentation for example how to live backup your mail folder.

If you want to perform synchronization process right away, select task from list and hit the 'Sync Now' button. For adding or editing tasks click on proper button. A dialog screen will appear.



Field	Description
Description	Identification of this task in synchronizations list. Enter some descriptive text.
Source	Three types are available <b>FTP</b> : Backup your FTP server. This is the most common usage. <b>HTTP</b> : Synchronize an HTTP URL (one file only) with locally stored file. This can be handy. <b>Directory</b> : Synchronize from some local or network directory.
Server	Specifies server name.
Username	Username used to login to server.
Password	Password used to login to server.
Directory	Remote relative directory path. Uses slashes - \

Recursive (synchronize subdirectories )	If enabled, all subdirectories will be synchronized too.
Synchronize to directory	A folder in your computer for the synchronization.
Schedule	Select days of week and use the radio buttons to set frequency of synchronization process

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## CHAPTER 3

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# FTP Hints

In this chapter some useful and helpful advices, hints, tips and tricks are described. Using this information can simplify and speed up management of your FTP server.

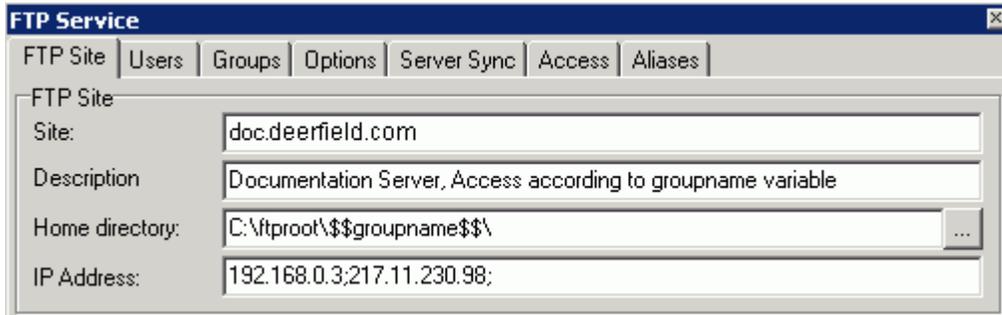
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## Path variables

You have three various path variables available. You can use them in **home directory**, in **path permissions** settings and make **aliases** for them.

Path Variable	Description
\$\$username\$\$	Username of currently logged user is stored here.
\$\$groupname\$\$	Name of the group to which currently logged user belongs.
\$\$homedir\$\$	Stores path to mailbox folder of currently logged user.
\$\$email\$\$	Usable only if integrated with the system contains the email address of the user.
\$\$domain\$\$	Usable only if integrated with the system this path variable contains domain name of the currently logged user.

**Example:**

This setting will allow you to have separate groups entering separate folders on your computer with one setting only.

## Warning: User vs. Group

Path permissions and options specified for individual user **always override** settings of user as a member of some group! Do not forget about this. This also means you can selectively set different options for a particular user of any group.

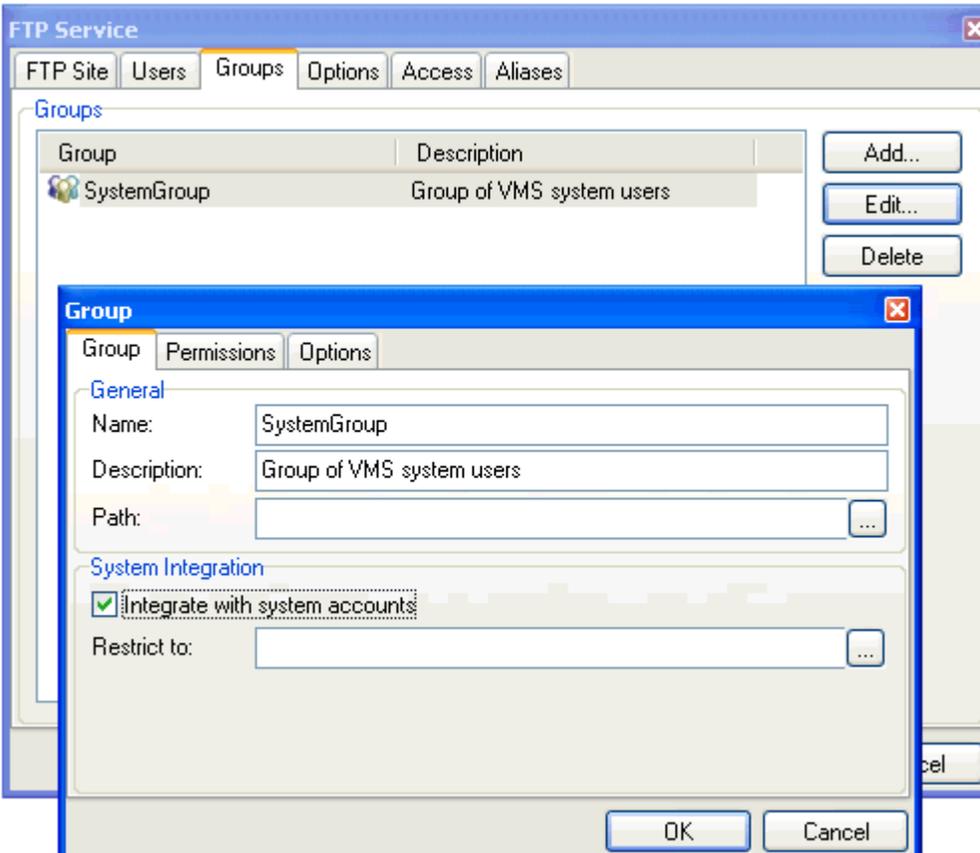
For example you want to give an administrator of a domains unlimited FTP access, so you have to specify these settings for this special user individually in 'Users' tab.

## Trick: System Integration Group

Very useful is to create a group of VisNetic MailServer System users. Creating such a group will easily let you link e-mail server and FTP server.

Users in this group use their e-mail account username/password combination also for accessing FTP site.

To create such group navigate to 'Groups' tab and add a new group like this:



Do not forget to enable the check-box 'Integrate with system accounts'. If you do not fill in restriction field this group will contain every user of VisNetic MailServer

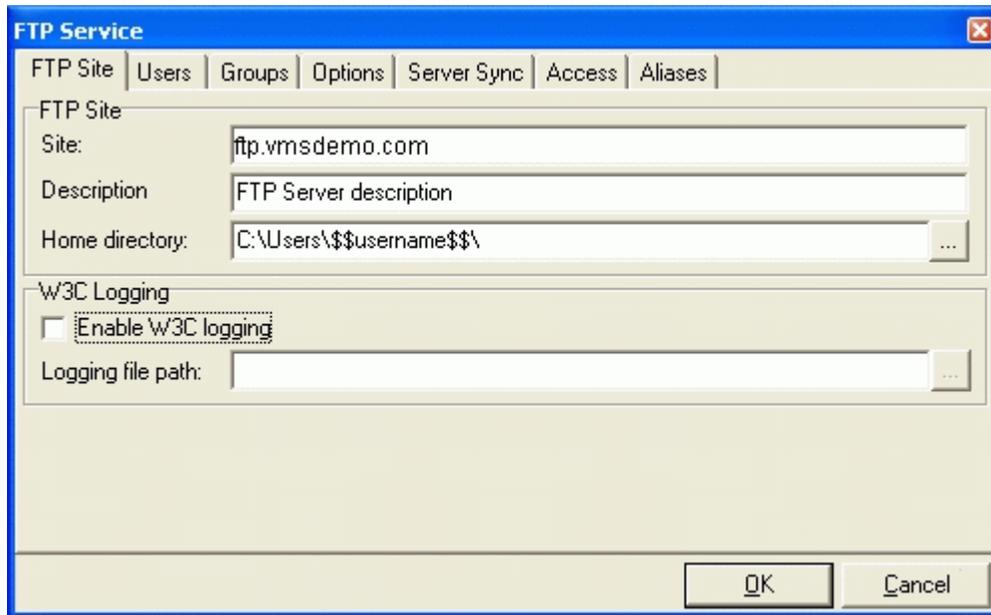
If you smartly set options to be the mostly suitable for you, this is a powerful feature to handle and integrate e-mail and FTP accounts.

Note the usage of path variables `$$homedir$$` and `$$groupname$$`.

If you do not want to have all users in one group, e.g. you want to restrict it to a specific domain or users just fill in the blank restrict to field. Multiple domains and users are supported separated with semicolon.

## Trick: Effective usage of path variable \$\$username\$\$

If you simply want every user to have a separate folder on your server you can do it this way:

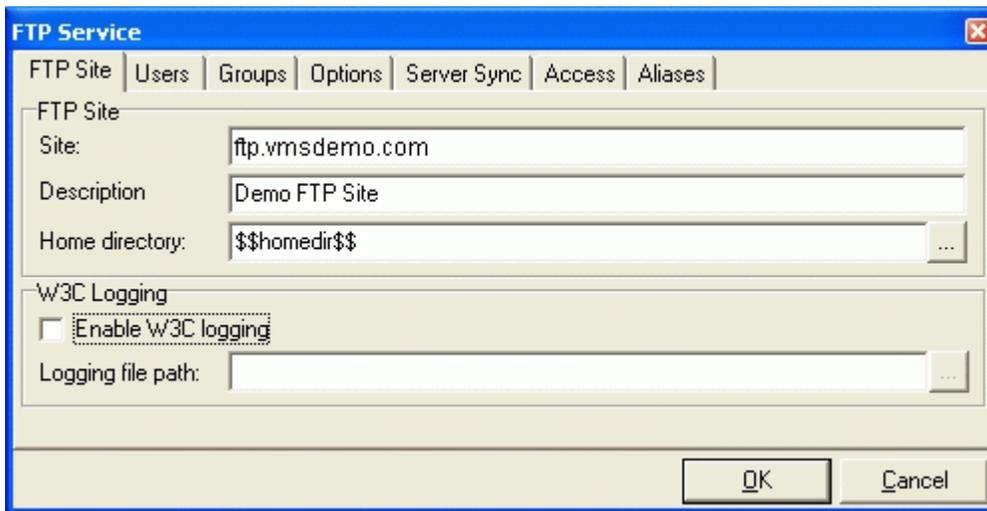


- Now every user that logs into his account will be automatically in his folder.
- For first-time loggers, folder is automatically created by VisNetic MailServer FTP server. This applies also for anonymous account.
- It is recommended that you set the proper path permissions and maximum directory size for various types of users accounts in 'User - Path Permissions/Options' or 'Group - Path Permissions/Options'.

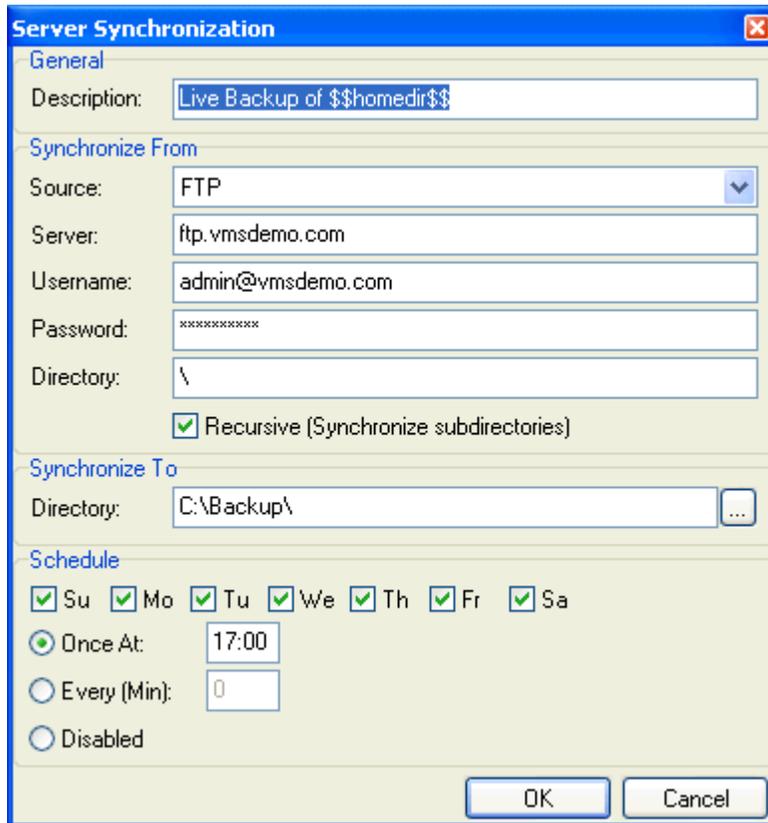
When you as an administrator of the server navigate to the folder C:\Users, you will see folders named \$\$username\$\$.

## Trick: Server Sync - Live Backup of mail folder

Very useful can be to backup a mail folder. By setting FTP server as on the picture below, users will access directly their mail folders (path variable \$\$homedir\$\$).



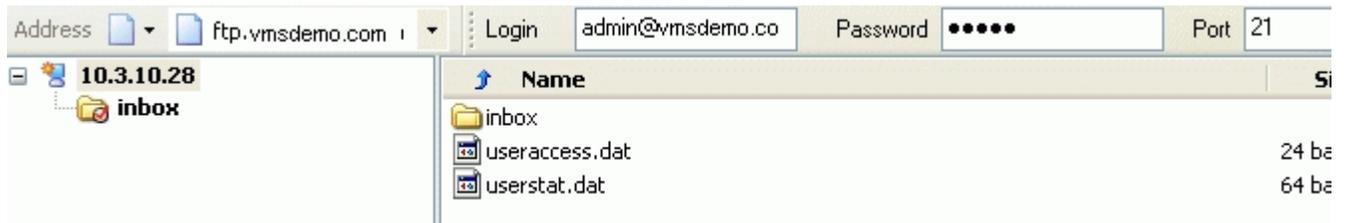
Navigate to 'Server Sync' tab, add new task and set it to values such as these:



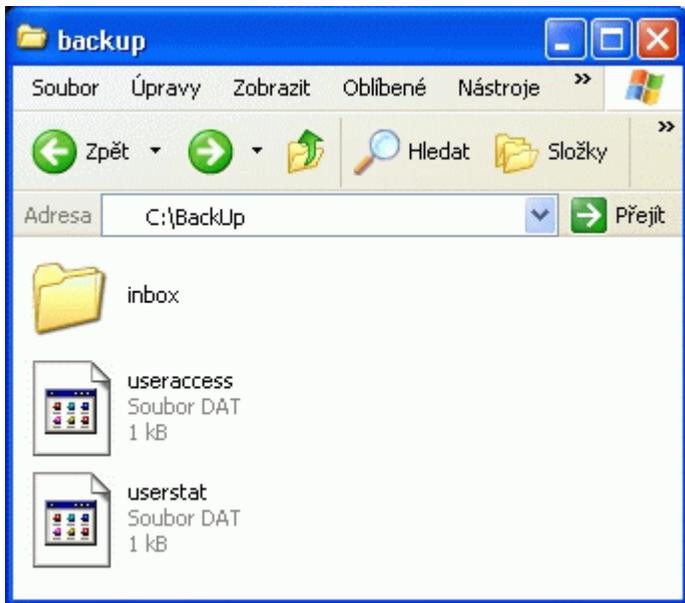
Now the server sync feature will backup whole mail folder (also subfolders - Recursive check-box enabled) of user account admin@vmsdemo.com to local directory "C:\BackUp\".

Synchronization process will be performed once every Friday at 17:00 as set in Scheduling option.

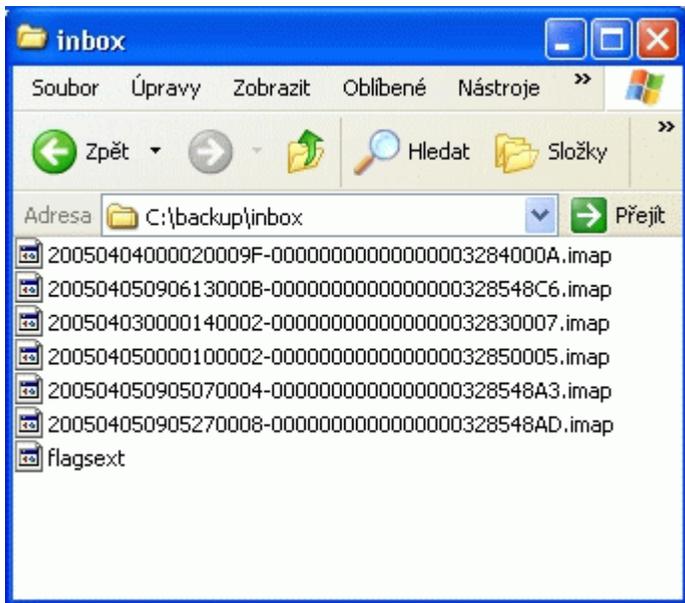
If you will now access FTP site with as user admin@vmsdemo.com you will see content of your mail directory.



After synchronization - (Friday 17:00, or pressing 'Sync Now' button), in local directory C:\BackUp.

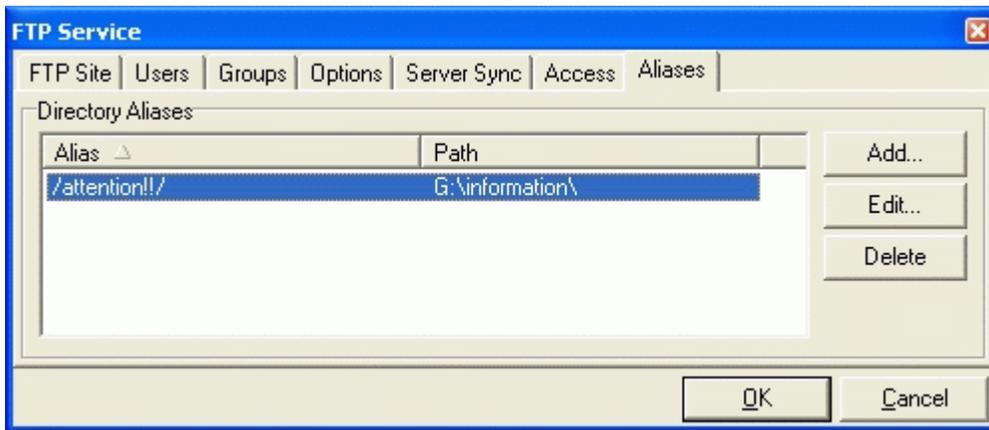


As you can simply check also folder \inbox\ is synchronized.



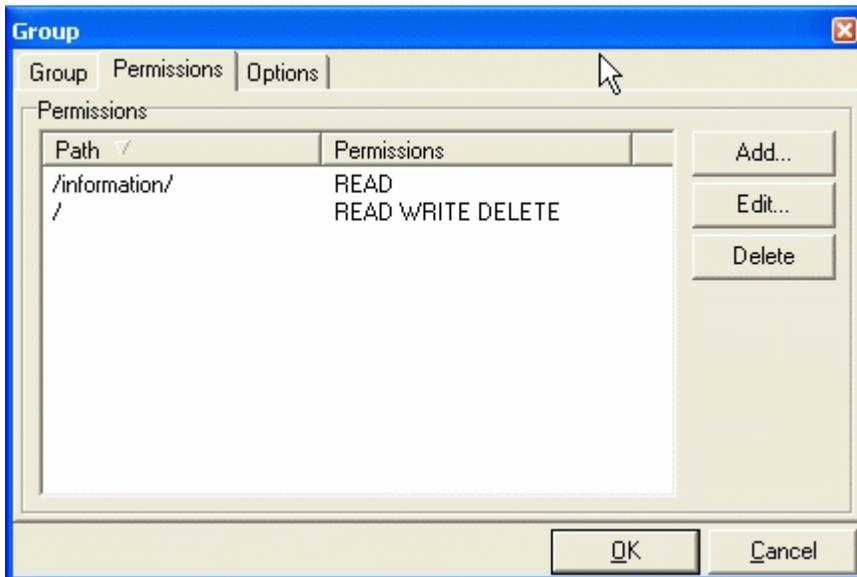
## Trick: Aliases - Globally inform users of particular group

This is useful when you want to inform or notify all users of a particular group on your FTP server. For such purpose you will include a folder or file into all FTP user accounts listed for this group. To do that, create an alias like this:



And locate the message or announcement into your local folder 'G:\information\'.

Now to add this directory to all user accounts simply add this alias into path permissions of a group or users you want to notify.



Now users of your group will see in their home directory a new read-only folder called 'attention!!'.



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